

Realizing the Tea Promise

KENYA TEA INDUSTRY PERFORMANCE HIGHLIGHTS FOR APRIL 2021 PRODUCTION

Tea production for the month of April 2021 dipped to 44.29 Million Kgs compared to 48.69 Million Kgs recorded during the month of March and 49.65 Million Kgs for the corresponding month of 2020. Lower production was attributed to depressed rainfall over most parts of the country, which was below the respective long-term mean rainfall amounts for the month. Compared to March last year, the rainfall recorded in several parts of the country and in tea growing regions was occasional and unevenly distributed.

Notably, the effect of lower and poorly distributed rainfall conditions was more pronounced in the tea growing areas of the West East of Rift especially in Kericho and Bomet. Within Kericho, there was reduced precipitation from an average of between 80-95 mm daily during the first half of the month to 33-48 mm for the rest of the month. Output in Kericho was also affected by incidences of hailstorms experienced in several tea Estates. In Bomet, rainfall waned from 84 mm daily during the first week to 16 mm by the end of the month. Other tea growing areas within the Region such as Nyamira/Kisii and Nandi experienced lower but steady precipitation. As a result, production within the West of Rift was significantly lower by 4.26 Million Kgs from 30.01 Million Kgs recorded during the same month of 2020 to 25.75 Million Kgs.

Within the East of Rift, tea growing areas of Muranga/Nyeri/Kirinyaga experienced lower but steady rainfall throughout the month. However, the rest of the tea growing areas within the Region experienced moderate precipitation averaging up to 73 mm daily for Kiambu and 98 mm for Embu/Meru. Consequently, the drop in production within East of Rift, was slightly lower at 1.09 Million Kgs from 19.63 Million Kgs recorded in April 2020 to 18.54 Million Kgs. Notably, due to wide-coverage of the Smallholder sub-sector in tea

growing regions that were affected by adverse weather conditions in the West and East of Rift, respectively, the sub-sector's production significantly dropped by 5.49 Million Kgs to 25.51 Million Kgs from 31 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding month of 2020. However, the Plantation sub-sector recorded marginal increase in production of less than 1% from 18.65 Million Kgs to 18.78 Million Kgs.

Cumulative production for the four months of the year was also significantly lower by 22.93 Million Kgs to stand at 185.28 Million Kgs against 208.22 Million Kgs recorded during the corresponding period of 2020. Notably, since the weather conditions expected this year may be slightly different from that of last year, lower production trend to-date is likely to continue throughout the rest of the year.



Table 1: Production by Sub-Sector and Region (2021 vis-à-vis 2020)

Sub-Sector	Region	April-21	April -20	Variance	Var.(%)	Jan - April 2021	Jan - April 2020	Variance +/-	Var.(%)
	West of Rift	16,960,026	16,948,833	11,193	0.07%	75,680,264	74,148,759	1,531,505	2.07%
Plantation	East of Rift	1,824,722	1,701,991	122,731	7.21%	6,703,449	7,684,900	- 981,451	-12.77%
	Total	18,784,748	18,650,824	133,924	0.72%	82,383,713	81,833,659	550,054	0.67%
	West of Rift	8,790,680	13,068,121	- 4,277,441	-32.73%	40,103,254	52,608,040	- 12,504,786	-23.77%
Smallholder	East of Rift	16,724,032	17,937,125	- 1,213,093	-6.76%	62,799,980	73,783,929	- 10,983,949	-14.89%
	Total	25,514,712	31,005,246	- 5,490,534	-17.71%	102,903,234	126,391,969	- 23,488,735	-18.58%
Plantation &	West of Rift	25,750,706	30,016,954	- 4,266,248	-14.21%	115,783,518	126,756,799	- 10,973,281	-8.66%
Smallholder	East of Rift	18,548,754	19,639,116	- 1,090,362	-5.55%	69,503,429	81,468,829	- 11,965,400	-14.69%
	Total	44,299,460	49,656,070	- 5,356,610	-10.79%	185,286,947	208,225,628	- 22,938,681	-11.02%

TEA SALES

AUCTION

During the month of April, 35.92 Million Kgs of Kenyan tea was sold through Mombasa Auction. The Auction sales volume was lower as compared to 45.04 Million Kgs sold in March and 37.82 Million Kgs sold in February. It was also lower compared to 42.48 Million Kgs sold during the corresponding month of last year. Despite lower volume of tea on offer for the month, the average auction prices for Kenyan tea was lower at 1.90 USD per Kg compared to USD 2.00 per Kg in March and USD 2.10 recorded in February. It was also lower in comparison to USD 2.11 per Kg recorded in April last year.

The Average Auction price for the period January - April 2021 stood at USD 2 per Kg, which was 12 US Cents lower compared to USD 2.12 for the same period of last year. Lower Auction price to-date was attributed to higher supply and accumulated stocks along the value chain occasioned by good weather conditions experienced last year. Demand has also been affected to some extent by reduced consumer purchasing power due to the effect of global economic recession occasioned by COVID-19 Pandemic.

During the month, "Best" category of leaf grades fetched between USD 2.12 to 5.52 per Kg for the BP1s and 2.18 to 3.16 for the PF1s while tea prices for a similar category of the dust grades ranged between USD 2.00 to 3.18 for PDust and USD 1.70 to 2.97 for Dust1 with well sorted grades and those with brighter liquors attracting much higher prices.

During the month of April, buyers for Kazakhstan and other CIS nations were more active in buying tea at the auction compared to the rest while the Pakistan and Egypt markets showed good support.

EXPORTS

The total export volume for the month of April 2020 was higher by 14% from 43.55 Million Kgs recorded in the same period of last year to 49.45 Million Kgs.

During the month, Kenya tea was shipped to forty eight (48) export destinations compared to forty six (46) for the same period of last year. Amongst these markets, Pakistan was the leading export destination for Kenyan tea having imported 17.94 Million Kgs, accounting for 36.3% of the total export volume.

Other key export destinations for Kenyan tea were Egypt (9.95 Million Kgs), Sudan (3.89 Million Kgs), UK (3.75 Million Kgs), Russia (2.08 Million Kgs), UAE (2.01 Million Kgs), Yemen (1.24 Million Kgs), Nigeria (1.09 Million Kgs) Kazakhstan (1.06 Million Kgs), and Iran (0.55 Million Kgs). The top ten export destinations, most of which are traditional markets for Kenyan tea accounted for 88% of Kenya tea export volume. Most these markets recorded higher tea imports from Kenya compared to the same period of last year with significant improvement in Sudan, Egypt, Pakistan, UAE and Nigeria.

Significantly higher tea imports from Kenya were also recorded in non-traditional markets such as Switzerland, Sri Lanka and Netherlands and to certain seasonal markets such as Bangladesh, Qatar, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Kyrgyzstan.

The total export volume for the four months period of 2021 was 18% higher at 202.75 Million Kgs, compared to 172.43 Million Kgs recorded during the same period of last year.

LOCAL TEA SALES

Local tea sales for April 2021 was lower at 2.81 Million Kgs against 3.01 Million Kgs for the corresponding month of 2020. Cumulative tea sales for the first four months period of 2021 was also lower at 11.29 Million Kgs against 12.31 Million Kgs for the same period of 2020.

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Table 2: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (April 2021 vis-à-vis April 2020)

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DESTINATION	2021- QUANTITY KGS	2020 - QUANTITY KGS	·	%AGE VARIANCE
PAKISTAN	17,945,296.00	16,271,766.00	1,673,530	10%
EGYPT	9,950,987.30	6,967,820.00	2,983,167	43%
SUDAN	3,890,437.04	437,607.00	3,452,830	789%
UK	3,750,373.00	6,057,625.50	-2,307,253	-38%
RUSSIA	2,088,458.00	2,480,497.00	-392,039	-16%
UAE	2,015,853.90	598,620.00	1,417,234	237%
YEMEN	1,242,993.00	1,915,999.00	-673,006	-35%
NIGERIA	1,093,884.00	295,520.00	798,364	270%
KAZAKHSTAN	1,068,071.00	1,480,599.00	-412,528	-28%
IRAN	554,489.00	51,460.00	503,029	978%
SWITZERLAND	542,578.00	209,177.00	333,401	159%
POLAND	535,607.00	703,877.00	-168,270	-24%
SAUDI ARABIA	462,048.00	683,978.00	-221,930	-32%
IRELAND	430,020.00	626,475.00	-196,455	-31%
USA	394,644.00	412,132.00	-17,488	-4%
MALAYSIA	265,810.00	282,946.00	-17,136	-6%
UKRAINE	252,988.00	187,909.00	65,079	35%
INDIA	238,436.00	240,236.00	-1,800	-1%
AFGHANSTAN	238,023.00	343,829.00	-105,806	-31%
JAPAN	202,490.00	207,176.00	-4,686	-2%
BANGLADESH	201,600.00		201,600	
UZBEKISTAN	200,912.00	127,390.00	73,522	58%
NETHERLANDS	190,643.00	121,902.00	68,741	56%
SOUTH AFRRICA	186,200.00	226,832.00	-40,632	-18%
INDONESIA	165,184.00	423,720.00	-258,536	-61%
SRI LANKA	152,698.00	80,555.00	72,143	90%
SOMALIA	143,864.00	52,354.00	91,510	175%
CHINA	136,060.00	610,145.10	-474,085	-78%
QATAR	117,821.00	1,960.00	115,861	5911%
JORDAN	113,750.00	198,000.00	-84,250	-43%
GERMANY	109,334.00	60,352.00	48,982	81%
OMAN	75,236.00	101,130.00	-25,894	-26%
KYRGYZSTAN	66,908.00	,	66,908	
DJIBOUTI	60,432.00	27,963.00	32,469	116%
GHANA	58,854.00	39,193.00	19,661	50%
TURKEY	58,436.00	649,375.00	-590,939	-91%
CHAD	43,328.00	45,640.00	-2,312	-5%
TURKMENISTN	34,795.00	,	34,795	
CANADA	33,230.00	79,140.00	-45,910	-58%
MYANMAR	26,000.00	25,218.00	782	3%
ISRAEL	24,000.00	23,210.00	24,000	370
PERU	22,720.00		22,720	
MAURITIUS	20,000.00	60,000.00	-40,000	-67%
AZERBAIJAN	16,346.00	00,000.00	16,346	-0770
SINGAPORE	14,000.00	12,300.00	1,700	14%
FINLAND	12,000.00	12,300.00	12,000	1470
HONG KONG	11,340.00	1,374.00	9,966	725%
TAIWAN	400.00	49,320.00	-48,920	-99%
BRAZIL	700.00	10,580.40	-10,580	-100%
FRANCE		36,288.00	-36,288	-100%
ITALY		4,600.00	-4,600	-100%
NEW ZEALAND		12,800.00	-12,800	-100%
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VIETNAM		37,844.00	-37,844	-100%
TOTAL	40.450.533.34	42 554 224 22	F 000 3F3	4.40/
TOTAL	49,459,577.24	43,551,224.00	5,908,353	14%

Table 3: Kenya Tea Exports by Destination (Jan-April 2021 vis-à-vis Jan-April 2020)

DESTINATION	2021- QUANTITY KGS	2020 - QUANTITY KGS	QUANTITY VARIANCE KGS	%AGE VARIANCE
PAKISTAN	73,587,466.30	58,293,459.50	15,294,007	26%
EGYPT	38,849,041.40	32,477,833.00	6,371,208	20%
UK	17,546,222.31	18,540,374.80	-994,152	-5%
UAE	13,289,114.90	10,600,362.03	2,688,753	25%
SUDAN	9,506,214.47	7,120,975.90	2,385,239	33%
RUSSIA	9,346,029.00	7,594,135.66	1,751,893	23%
YEMEN	6,541,204.00	5,138,179.00	1,403,025	27%
KAZAKHSTAN	3,975,187.35	4,289,943.00	-314,756	-7%
POLAND	2,873,190.00	2,996,234.87	-123,045	-4%
IRAN	2,254,643.00	1,064,536.00	1,190,107	112%
IRELAND	2,193,111.00	1,671,665.00	521,446	31%
SWITZERLAND	1,899,030.00	661,917.00	1,237,113	187%
NIGERIA	1,898,229.00	1,217,967.50	680,262	56%
CHINA	1,857,136.00	1,009,849.10	847,287	84%
NETHERLANDS	1,618,288.00	1,370,360.00	247,928	18%
INDIA	1,517,652.00	755,502.00	762,150	101%
SAUDI ARABIA	1,313,733.00	2,770,310.00	-1,456,577	-53%
JAPAN	1,241,512.00	652,926.00	588,586	90%
MALAYSIA	1,078,313.00	943,084.00	135,229	14%
UKRAINE	1,053,515.00	655,907.13	397,608	61%
USA	1,043,588.00	1,279,341.70	-235,754	-18%
SRI LANKA	968,776.00	266,768.00	702,008	263%
INDONESIA	838,542.00	773,260.00	65,282	8%
TURKEY	684,138.00	1,513,004.00	-828,866	-55%
SOMALIA	676,234.00	510,816.80	165,417	32%
UZBEKISTAN	556,974.00	740,122.00	-183,148	-25%
AFGHANSTAN	551,988.00	2,395,342.00	-1,843,354	-77%
QATAR	453,012.00	261,876.00	191,136	73%
BANGLADESH	406,800.00	144,000.00	262,800	183%
GERMANY	355,849.00	155,191.00	200,658	129%
CHAD	350,437.00	273,320.00	77,117	28%
SOUTH AFRICA	332,012.00	549,180.00	-217,168	-40%
GHANA	299,392.00	99,313.00	200,079	201%
CANADA	297,140.00	210,320.00	86,820	41%
OMAN	278,562.00	287,468.00	-8,906	-3%
DJIBOUTI	139,278.00	151,963.00	-12,685	-8%
MYANMAR	133,067.00	85,021.00	48,046	57%
JORDAN	113,750.00	1,467,500.00	-1,353,750	-92%
KYTRGYZSTAN	108,130.00		108,130	
TAIWAN	82,360.00	127,606.00	-45,246	-35%
SINGAPORE	64,400.00	57,000.00	7,400	13%
ERITREA	61,190.00		61,190	
MAURITIUS	60,000.00	60,000.00	0	0%
HONG KONG	58,952.00	22,758.00	36,194	159%
TURKMENISTAN	51,685.00		51,685	
PERU	45,440.00	40,264.00	5,176	13%
IRAQ	40,994.00		40,994	1224
VIETNAM	35,800.00	59,844.00	-24,044	-40%
MEXICO	27,000.00	2,634.00	24,366	925%
AZERBAIJAN	25,882.00	30,176.00	-4,294	-14%
BRAZIL	25,740.40	16,580.40	9,160	55%
NEW ZEALAND	25,600.00	12,800.00	12,800	100%
ISRAEL	24,000.00		24,000	
TAJIKISTAN	23,829.00		23,829	
ITALY	14,660.00	18,400.00	-3,740	-20%
BAHRAIN	12,412.00		12,412	
FINLAND	12,000.00	13,200.00	-1,200	-9%
MALI	10,348.00	5,174.00	5,174	100%

TOTAL	202,750,974.13	172,428,698.39	30,322,276	18%
ZAMBIA		25,025.00	-25,025	-100%
TOGO		5,174.00	-5,174	-100%
MOROCCO		48,000.00	-48,000	-100%
LEBANON		26,840.00	-26,840	-100%
IVORY COAST		20,696.00	-20,696	-100%
ISLE OF MAN		20,564.00	-20,564	-100%
FRANCE		36,288.00	-36,288	-100%
CHILE		560,720.00	-560,720	-100%
BURKINA FASO		10,348.00	-10,348	-100%
BELGIUM		52,880.00	-52,880	-100%
AUSTRALIA		158,720.00	-158,720	-100%
CZECH REP	100.00	100.00	0	0%
SOUTH KOREA	1,600.00		1,600	
SENEGAL	5,174.00		5,174	
LITHUANIA	7,224.00	7,579.00	-355	-5%
CAMEROON	8,083.00		8,083	